

January 25, 2002

Renata Hesse  
Trial Attorney  
Antitrust Division  
Department of Justice  
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Dear Ms. Hesse:

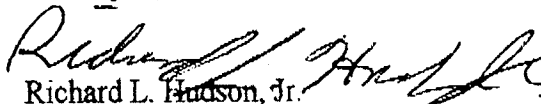
Microsoft's products are the greatest in the technology industry, and that is the major reason that they are regarded as a leader in the American economy. Given that fact, it is no wonder that when the federal court announced that Microsoft would be broken up, the stock market came to a screeching halt, and tumbled down from record highs.

I am very encouraged that Microsoft and the federal government have agreed to a settlement in the antitrust case. I believe that this is good for the economy, the government and other societal institutions, which increasingly rely on industry to invent new products to make their operations more effective.

The settlement provides for more oversight into Microsoft's operations, and a more competitive playing field for all companies in the industry. That's welcome news for everyone who demands consumer choice. It will also send the right signal to investors that the government is prepared to work in a cooperative effort to spur economic growth and job creation.

I request that Judge Kollar Kotelly will approve the settlement, so that the Justice Department can conserve resources for more pressing legal matters. Additionally, closure in this matter would send a message that government is prepared to work with the American business in taking constructive steps toward a brighter future for all Americans.

Thank you,



Richard L. Hudson, Jr.

Trustee

Rowan-Cabarrus Community College